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Black nationalism: A path to peace

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An increased interest in Black Nationalism has emerged in recent years. It is generally agreed that the goal of the Black Nationalist movement is to liberate black people from oppression in all its forms. Though the Black Nationalist movement began in the early nineteenth century, the supporters have not reached their goal (Blake, 1969). Systemic racism in the United States continues to be pervasive in our modern society. As such, it is evident that the liberation of the black community requires action. To date, there have been numerous expressions of nonviolent action such as taking a knee, peaceful protests, and black out Tuesday where people avoid buying or selling as a demonstration of allegiance. Yet, these forms of demonstration continue to be misunderstood and met with animosity. The role of nonviolent action is grossly misunderstood. In order to fight oppression with peace liberation, it requires the development of practice of nonviolence founded on experience and systematic knowledge generation (Vinthagen, 2015).

It is a given that conflict is inevitable in human relationships. Additionally, it is unlikely that we will reach a consensus regarding how we address social injustice across races. In spite of this, it is important to continue the dialogue of nonviolence and its place in discontented groups of people and oppressive governments. Indeed, over the past century and more, nonviolent resistance movements have been twice as successful in achieving their aims as resistance movements that embraced violence (Bloch, 2016). These triumphs in large part were due to preparing communities to utilize safe and strategic nonviolent action through education and training. Education and training must include things like increasing awareness on nonviolence theory and philosophy, nonviolence skills, peacekeeping, strategic planning and cultural

competency. The goal of this study is to investigate the range of factors that influence misinformation and identify key variables affecting peace building.

Keywords: Black Nationalism, Cultural Competency, Peace, Liberation, Peace Building, Education, Nonviolence

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